

March 31, 1983

LB 396

motion by Senator Carsten to add an amendment to LB 396. We would like to have the assistance of all members. Have you all voted? The Clerk will record the vote.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Motion carried. The amendment is adopted. Do you have something now on the bill, Senator Hefner... I mean Carsten.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Only, Mr. President, to just explain that this is the general homestead exemption that everyone is entitled to if they live in their own home. They do have to make application for it but once it is made it is then given to them and the statewide average is \$17 per home. We have talked about this for some time about removing it but have never attempted it and this is the first time that it does. I want to point out to you and to be fair with you and above board that there is a fiscal note with it that points out there will be a \$4.7 million impact with the passage of this bill. The people that... at least the committee felt the people that really need it, the low income, elderly, the disabled and the disabled veterans certainly do need to maintain their exemption, but it was felt that the general homestead exemption could be removed and perhaps should be and it is for that reason that we did introduce the bill and with the amendment does become operative and effective with the taxable year of 1983. With that, Mr. President, I would move for the advancement of the bill as amended.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I would ask Senator Carsten a question if he would yield. Senator Carsten, I support the bill. In fact, a few years ago I had an amendment to the, I believe the appropriations bill which would have done the same thing and that was not successful. I think the reasoning of the Revenue Committee is sound. However, my question is this. As I understand it, a bill was advanced that had to do with lotteries the other day and there was an amendment adopted by the committee which would in effect greatly expand this sort of a homestead exemption for everybody with a home from the receipts received from the lottery bill. So I guess I am confused. I don't understand the thinking of the Revenue Committee on....it seems to be contradictory.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Well, I guess my only answer to you,